

U.S. COAST GUARD RESERVE



VOLUME 52

ISSUE 1

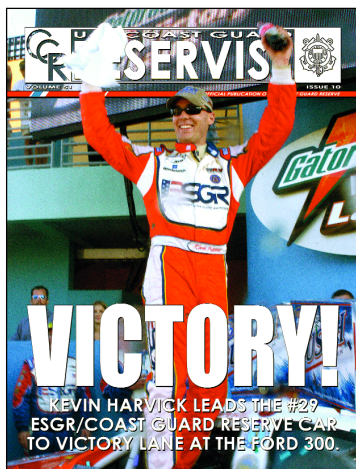
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE U.S. COAST GUARD RESERVE



VICTORY!

KEVIN HARVICK LEADS THE #29
ESGR/COAST GUARD RESERVE CAR
TO VICTORY LANE AT THE FORD 300.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



2004...What a Year!

It's time once again to pause to reflect on the year that was, and look ahead to the year that will be. A quick glance at each issue published during 2004 and I came away thinking it's been one heck of an amazing year!

Nationally, we witnessed many historic events — the dedication of the World War II Memorial on the National Mall May 29, followed shortly thereafter by the state funeral for President Ronald Reagan in June. Hurricane season was one of the worst ever as four of them devastated Florida and the Gulf Coast in August and September. And did Boston really win the World Series in October or did I just dream that? On Nov. 2, we went to the polls in record numbers to elect the president and new Congress. Yes — an amazing year!

The Coast Guard and Reserve had an amazing year as well. We welcomed Reserve Force Master Chief Jeff Smith, RADM James Van Sice and CAPT Louis Farrell to the Reserve & Training Directorate during 2004. We said goodbye to RADM Mary P. O'Donnell, the first Reserve woman flag officer, as well as Vice Commandant Thomas J. Barrett, who both retired during the summer. The Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association dedicated two Vietnam memorials — one at Cape May, one at the Academy. To help us be more productive Coasties, the Coast Guard refocused on fitness beginning in October.

We also witnessed life's brevity and longevity within our ranks. Sadly, we lost 24-year-old DC3 Nathan Bruckenthal at the Iraqi Khawr Al Amaya oil terminal April 24. He was interred at Arlington National Cemetery May 7. Meanwhile, CAPT Dorothy Stratton, first Director of the Coast Guard Women's Reserve (SPARs) in World War II, turned 105 on March 24!

MSTC Naomi Broughton was named Reserve Enlisted Person of the Year, LT Philip Snodgrass was named CGR Outstanding Junior Officer of the Year, while the 13th District won the annual Waesche Award. The ESGR Coast Guard Reserve car won the Ford 300 at Homestead-Miami Raceway to put a final exclamation point on an extraordinary year (see cover story this issue).

Here at the magazine, I think we've had another solid year with another citizen-sailor issue in March, the first ever Career Development issue in April, D-Day 60th in May, and the CGR Heritage issue during the summer featuring never-before published historic Coast Guard photos.

Expect more of the same in 2005. The year kicks off with the 55th Presidential inaugural Jan. 20. A few days later, Jan. 29 will mark the 60th commemoration of the USS Serpens at Arlington National Cemetery (read about that in this issue too). Yes, 2005 marks the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II. If you have an idea for stories for 2005, let me know, and I'll add them to the 400 or so ideas already brewing on the "waiting list."

Happy New Year!

-Ed.

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16 Victory!

The # 29 ESGR/Coast Guard Reserve car earns its way to Victory Lane in the Ford 300.



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Ridge resigns, CGR/ESGR Race Car, Senior Leadership at ROA Summer Conference, REBI 11/04 Graduation.



22 U.S.S. Serpens

The 60th Anniversary of the largest Coast Guard tragedy.

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And 1...



The Magazine would like to welcome the latest addition to the Reservist family:

Alexander Edward Kruska,
Born on 12/03/04,

You can look for his first column in a future issue.

The "Four" Services?

I found a short story in the Canton (Ohio) Repository, a daily reader for nearly 100,000 civilians which reads: "The Stark County Department of Job and Family Services will host a military career fair.... Recruiters from all four branches of the service will be present at the event, which is open to the public...." This announcement details the lack of visibility of the Coast Guard among the media and the general public. I'm proud to be a transfer from the Army to the Coast Guard (reservist) and I just hate to see things like this. People continue to see the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines posters and commercials, but they don't see the service which interacts with them on a daily basis rather than the macro function of the other services.

— *ENS Mark H. Adams*
MSO Buffalo, N.Y.

Ed's note: ENS Adams is not alone! Read on....

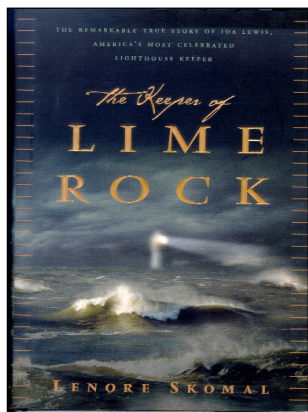
Over many years, I have received numerous catalogs selling products for the men and women who are serving or have served in the armed forces. Sadly, many of the manufacturers leave the Coast Guard out of the items for sale (ie. Clothing, cups, watches, flags, etc.). For some reason, they think that there are only four armed services in our country.

For the past 10 years or more, when I receive a catalog that omits the Coast Guard, I write a letter advising them that there are five armed forces in our country and I wouldn't buy anything in their catalog as long as the Coast Guard is not represented.

I suggest we all take time to tell these people that we may be small, but we are very proud of our service. Semper Paratus.

— *CWO2 G.T. Billberry, USCGR(Ret.)*
Scully Mountain, N.C.

Ida Lewis' Boom Inscription



I am a native of Newport, R.I. where Ida Lewis was born and died. She was famous to Newporters for her daring rescues as keeper of the Lime Rock Light. The book review of her biography in *The Reservist* was very interesting ("The Keeper of Lime Rock," Vol. 51, Number 7, page 45). I was back in Newport for a visit at the end of October. I drove onto the Navy Base and went to Pier 2. The USCG buoy tender *Ida Lewis* was moored there. What caught

my attention was an inscription on the buoy boom, "Ida Lewis, mother of all tenders." What a kick!

— *CAPT Bill Taylor, USCGR(Ret.)*
San Diego, Calif.

For Historical Record, Write it Down!

I wish to comment on CWO4 Wischemann's letter to the editor in your May issue ("Time to Write Those Memoirs"). A few years ago, I too experienced a lack of interest from Coast Guard officers in the more every day history of the Coast Guard. At a meeting of the local Coast Guard ROA chapter, the small group that actually showed up was looking for ways to get people involved. I made the suggestion that we start a

history project to document the experiences of those who served or lived locally. That idea was met with a resounding thud.

I agree with Mr. Wischemann that there is a lot of history in the everyday things. It's not sexy like a major SAR case or PSUs, but it is the history of how we got things done with few or no resources. I encourage him to write it ALL down. Name all the names and events as he remembers them. One never knows what may be useful to future researchers. When finished, find a local historical society or maritime museum to deposit it. That is what I wound up doing. Here in Cleveland, the Western Reserve Historical Society was glad to have more Coast Guard history in their archives. Remember, if you write it down, you have saved some history, and maybe provided the only interpretation of events, large or small, since you were there and they were not. Future historians will thank you.

— *LT George A. Gilliam, USCGR (Ret.)*
Cleveland Heights, Ohio

Suggestions for Reserve Web Site

I checked out the Reserve Web site recently. I'd like to see a topic/category dedicated to retirees. Also, under "magazines," I think a link to the monthly Coast Guard magazine should be included. There's a lot more operational info in reference to actual everyday Coast Guard activities than the administrative stuff found in *The Reservist*. I think it's important that the Reserve work force know the bigger picture of missions throughout the entire Coast Guard rather than just Reserve-specific operations as part-time employees. Thanks.

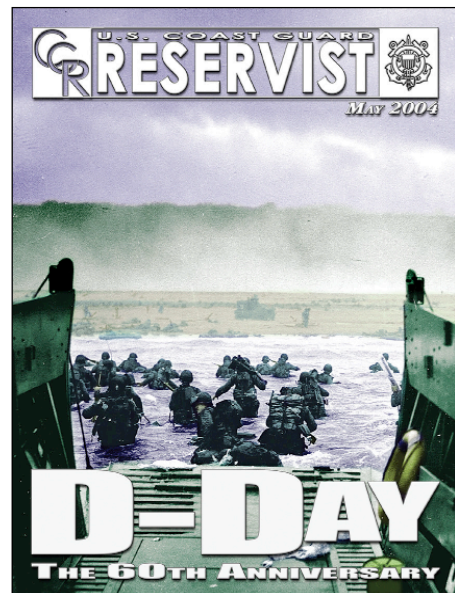
— *OSC Michael Garbe, USCGR, (Ret.)*

Coast Guard Heroes

As we just celebrated D-Day's 60th Anniversary, Battle of Normandy, let us not forget the Coast Guard heroes that were involved and were decorated for valor under fire during the Normandy invasion. The Coast Guard had 11 heroes that received the Silver Star (SS), one who received the British Distinguished Service Cross (BDSC), and one that received the Navy Cross (NC).

They were: LT Samuel W. Allison (S/S), LT George C. Clark (BDSC), LT Gene R. Gislason (S/S), LTJG Coit Hendley (S/S), LTJG George F. Hutchinson (S/S), CAPT Miles H. Imlay (S/S), SN 1st Class Gene E. Oxley (S/S), LT Robert M. Salmon (S/S), MM 1st Class William F. Trump (S/S), CDR Aden C. Unger (S/S), LTJG Arend Vyn (S/S), LCDR Quentin R. Walsh (NC), SN 1st Class Robert G.

ward (S/S). Six of these heroes were Commanding Officers aboard LCI'S (L), Landing Craft (Infantry) Large. These heroes were instrumental in the successful invasion of Normandy and in turning the tide of World War II. The dedication and devotion to duty exhibited by these men were



in keeping with the highest tradition of the Coast Guard. Semper Paratus!

— BMCS Jack Crowley,
USCG(Ret.)
Semmes, Ala.

In Awe of Honor Guard

Vol. 51, Issue 6 had a well done article and pictorial layout of the burial of former President Ronald Reagan. As a former Coast Guardsman (1951-55), I took particular interest in the actual burial which I watched with fascination. I am what many would term a military or ceremonial “buff.” I was, for many years, director of both a drum and bugle corps as well as a competing color guard. Perhaps this will explain my keen interest in the services and the manner in which the joint honor guards carried them out.

I am always in awe as these honor guards display their devotion and skills. Of particular interest is the presence of U.S. Coast Guardsmen in every phase of the events that unfolded. Other than the Old Guard and their barracks at Fort Myer, Va., I know little of the others. Perhaps you might do a follow-up in another issue of The Reservist about the Coasties assigned to the Honor Guard. How are they chosen? Where are they quartered in D.C.? Where do they train in their special duties? How long do they remain in the joint honor guard? On a final point, was that Coast Guard platoon shown marching on page 8 a senior recruit company from Cape May?

— BM3 Raymond E. Flood, USCG(Ret.)
Point Pleasant, N.J.

Ed's note: The Coast Guard Honor Guard's home is TISCOM Alexandria, Va. in the Metro-Washington, D.C. area. It was formed at the Coast Guard Yard in Baltimore in March 1962 and moved to TISCOM in 1965. The last article we ran in any depth on them was back in June 1995 when the original Honor Guard members held a reunion in Washington, D.C. It's time for an update, so thanks for the great idea! As for the Coast Guard platoon photo in the President Reagan photo spread, it is not clear what unit that was, but recruits did march in the funeral procession from Cape May.



Comparing the Numbers

Ever since the media started focusing on the numbers of the military that were dying in Iraq or Afghanistan, I've wondered how many men and woman in the same ages were dying or being injured in the U.S., more particular in Kentucky? I was sure that in Kentucky we had more deaths and injuries than were happening in the Middle East, but that number I don't have. Now any young persons death or serious injury is a shame, but those in the Middle East hopefully are happening for a proud purpose whereas those in the U.S. were mainly from car accidents, often with alcohol involved — one could say unnecessary deaths and injuries.

In the Oct. 3 issue of Parade magazine under an article entitled “The Best Car for a Teen Driver,” government figures show that each year nearly 5,000 Americans ages 16-19 are killed in crashes and 300,000 are injured. In looking at those figures, the deaths and injuries in the Middle East are very small and we have not gotten the additional numbers of persons 20 to 36. I think the media occasionally should indicate those differences.

— CWO4 Gene Radin, USCG(Ret.)
Nicholasville, Ky.

Back Cover Mislabeled?

Sorry to inform you but the back cover photo of Vol. 51, Number 9 was mislabeled as being photographed on July 19, 2004 in Guantanamo Bay. While it does depict Guantanamo, the date is wrong. PACAREA PSU DET is a reserve unit that relieved the detachment from MSST 91110 in early June and we have been on duty since then.

— CDR Jack Laufer
Detachment Commander
USCG PSU DET, JTF GTMO

Ed's note: The photo was selected from the Coast Guard Visual Imagery server, and the information published was taken from that source. We checked with the photographer and the date should have stated it was April 20, 2004, not July 19, 2004.





By
RADM John C.
Acton, USCGR

Deputy
Commander,
Mobilization &
Reserve
Component Affairs,
USCG Atlantic Area

“The good news is that we were effective — the Coast Guard could salute and report, “mission accomplished.” The bad news is that we were exceedingly inefficient — many key parts of the mobilization effort were much more painful than necessary.”

Becoming a More Effective and Efficient Reserve Force

Ed's note: This is RADM Acton's first View from the Bridge since his promotion to flag rank earlier this year.

The Reserve Answered the Call

During the three years since the 9/11 attacks, the CG Reserve repeatedly answered the call to mobilize in support of our active duty commands. In fact, nearly 75 percent of our reservists have been recalled to active duty, many several times. Active duty commanders at all levels repeatedly (and publicly) said that they could not have accomplished their missions without the strong presence of the Reserve.

Death by a Thousand Paper Cuts

During the past 18 months, we have experienced major surge efforts in support of *Operation Iraqi Freedom* (OIF) and the Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002 (MTSA). During those recall evolutions, many good people worked very long and hard to ensure that the Coast Guard had the reserve support it needed to accomplish the military outload mission. The good news is that we were *effective* — the Coast Guard could salute and report, “mission accomplished.” The bad news is that we were *exceedingly inefficient* — many key parts of the mobilization effort were much more painful than necessary. Staffs at many levels had to quickly devise their own personnel spread-sheets and respond to what seemed like an endless stream of labor-intense data calls. At times it was as painful as “death by a thousand paper cuts.”

A Strategic Initiative is Born

As a result, two critical strategic initiatives (both chartered by VADM Thad Allen, Coast Guard Chief of Staff) have come from that painful experience:

- The Reserve Strategic Employment Working Group, and

- The Reserve Strategic Assessment Team (RSAT).

Reserve Strategic Employment Working Group: Setting Our Strategic Way Ahead

RADM Jim Underwood (G-OP) and RADM Larry Hereth (G-MP) are co-chairing an effort currently underway to, essentially, determine what we want the CG Reserve to do (our missions) and how we want the Reserve to do it (employment). This working group has substantial participation from RADM Van Sice, as well as senior reserve officers and enlisted, and is slated to report out to the Commandant (via the Chief of Staff) in mid-December. This will be the strategic foundation that describes what we want the Reserve to do — and not do.

For example, based on this refined mission set, what are the requirements for our future Reserve force? Do we need more or fewer ratings than we currently have in the Reserve force? Should we reduce the number of small boat types that reservists are expected to qualify on? Or should we just identify a single platform for reserve qualification? Do any surge missions become reserve-owned or are our missions a shared active-reserve responsibility? What expeditionary role should the Reserve support? You get the idea. This critical effort will greatly influence the eventual size and composition of the Reserve force needed to accomplish the identified missions.

Reserve Strategic Assessment Team: Fixing The Details

Based on our experiences last year from the mobilization for the *Operation Iraqi Freedom* military outload, LANT and PAC got together and drafted a framework to identify and address the problems widely encountered. We were fortunate that RADM Bob Papp, then Director of Reserve & Training, had been thinking along the same lines and aggressively supported the



effort. As a result, VADM Allen charted the Reserve Strategic Assessment Team (RSAT), chaired by RADM Papp.

A working group consisting of senior O-6s (both active duty and reserve), civilians, and the Reserve Force Master Chief were assigned to the RSAT effort for some four months. To draft a comprehensive list of reserve problems, the working group visited both Areas, each district, pertinent HQ offices, and a sampling of groups, air stations, MSOs and stations. In its report, the working group identified some 84 “gaps” in the Reserve program — problems areas from the *Operation Iraqi Freedom* mobilization.

The gaps were grouped into six general “buckets” covering:

- **Missions and Strategic Foundation.** (See the Reserve Strategic Employment Working Group discussed above.)
- **Pay.** Why do reservists experience pay discrepancies at 400 percent the active duty error rate?
- **Personnel.** What should the Reserve assignment process look like? What should reserve tour lengths be? What do viable career paths look like in a post-9/11 Coast Guard Reserve? How can recruiting resources best be employed to fill our highest-priority vacant billets?
- **Training.** How can we better manage the training pipeline and reserve quotas? What courses need to be established, re-established or updated?
- **Mobilization Process.** What can be done to standardize Reserve mobilization, regardless of the

unit or geography? What policy changes need to be made to ensure reservists get ample warning for a mobilization? What can be done to standardize the demobilization process? How can we best leverage technology to improve efficiency *and* effectiveness for both mobilization *and* demobilization?

- **Qualifications.** How do we ensure an individual’s mobilization qualifications are current and maintained in TMT?

You can see the final RSAT report, in its entirety, on the Coast Guard Reserve intranet (G-WTR) Web site at: <http://cgweb.uscg.mil/g-w/reserve/> Double click on “Reserve Strategic Assessment Team” in the left-hand column.

Despite the recent pain, these truths remain:

- Now, more than ever, the Coast Guard is front and center for homeland security.
- Active duty commanders need their Reserve force to complete their missions.
- When called, the Reserve force has always responded and succeeded. And that will not change.

RADM Duncan Smith and I intend to maintain oversight of the progress of these important initiatives — to ensure our next call to duty is not only *effective*, but more *efficient* as well.

**Bravo Zulu to each of you
who proudly serves!**

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (Nov. 18, 2004) A boatcrew from MSO Memphis patrols the Arkansas River Nov. 18 during the grand opening of the William Jefferson Clinton Library in Little Rock, Ark.

USCG photo by PAC Veronica Bandrowsky









CAMP PENDLETON, Calif (Dec. 11, 2004) —
Port Security Unit 311 Petty Officer Jose Espinoza,
from Santa Tecla, El Salvador keeps a vigilant watch
at a basic combat skills training course here.
USCG photo by PA3 Dave Hardesty.



Washington, D.C. (Nov. 30, 2004)--
Secretary Tom Ridge announces his
resignation as Homeland Security
Secretary at a press conference today.
DHS photo by Barry Bahler

Reservist Gets Holiday Call from the President

PS3 Rafael Ortiz of PSU 307 talks with President George W. Bush while on deployment in the Middle East. The president called members from each of the Armed Forces on Thanksgiving Day from his ranch in Crawford, Texas, to send holiday wishes and thank them for their service.



Photo Courtesy ENS Robert Eowan

White House Photo by Tina Hager

Coast Guard Unit Visits White House

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Coast Guard Reserve Unit, Joint Forces Command visited the White House Sept. 18.

Host for the day was LCDR James Kelly, USCGR, Special Assistant to the President for Inter-Governmental Affairs. Kelly and Nick Pavliga, White House intern, escorted Coast Guard members throughout the East and West Wing as well as the White House grounds, and provided several opportunities to interface with various members of the White House staff. A roundtable with LT Craig Wieschhorster, Coast Guard representative to the White House Situation Room,

provided the group with a better understanding of how the White House analyzes information and distributes it within the government and military service structure.

The visit provided an excellent opportunity to have a first-hand look at top decision making processes and how the White House, the Department of Homeland Security and the Coast Guard are interacting to provide a more secure nation.

— *Story and Photo by LT Rick Neiman, CGRU, Joint Forces Command*

CGRU Joint Forces Command visited the White House Sept. 18.

Left to right: CDR Sharon Schilling, LT Susan Mercurio, CDR Earl Ward, CDR Doug Dawson, LT Ronzelle Green, CAPT John Welch, CDR Jeff Anderson, LCDR Warren Whitley, Mr. James Kelly, LTJG Keedah Ayers, LT Rick Neiman.



MSO San Fran Honors Departing Reservists

An appreciation day for Reserve personnel being released from their Title 10 or EAD contracts was held Sept. 21, 2004 at Coast Guard Island in Alameda, Calif. The reservists were honored with an awards ceremony and an all hands barbecue. The departing members were recalled at different times beginning on Sept. 11, 2001 in support of maritime homeland security missions.



Photo courtesy ENS Nephthim Rosario, MSO San Francisco Bay



Veterans Day in New York City

New York City welcomed the U.S. Coast Guard Maritime Safety and Security Team, NY/NJ 91106, from Staten Island, N.Y. during the 2004 New York City Veterans Parade. More than 125 organizations comprised of veterans, active military and reserve, corporate, state, and city units marched up 5th Avenue.

Hurricane Damage ATON Clean-Up

MK3 Victor Avila, left, from the Aids to Navigation Team (ANT) - Ft. Lauderdale and MK3 Ryan Bailey, right, ANT-St. Petersburg repair a damaged day board marker in the Caloosahatchee River near Coast Guard Station Ft. Myers, Fla. More than 65 channel markers and buoys are either damaged, missing or moved from position from Hurricane Charley.



USCG photo by PA3 Beth Reynolds, USCGR



Washington, D.C. (Nov. 6, 2004) – Members of OCS assist a scout with placing a flag at the gravesite of a fallen Coast Guardsman at the annual Flags Across America event at Arlington National Cemetery.
Photo by PA1 Barry Lane



The pit crew changes the tires and adds fuel during a pit stop in the Ford 300.

Photo courtesy ESGR



VICTORY!

The #29 ESGR/Coast Guard Reserve Car takes the checkered flag at the Ford 300.

Story by PA2 Judy Silverstein, USCGR

“For entire laps of the race, the screen was filled with Coast Guard orange and white; that’s exactly the kind of exposure we’re looking for.”

**– For LTJG Greg Peck,
ESGR/NASCAR Project Officer**

HOMESTEAD. Fla. – “Gentlemen, start your engines!”

That familiar cry kicked off the Ford 300 — the last race of the season in the NASCAR Busch series — and another fast-paced run around the track at the Homestead-Miami Raceway Nov. 20. Forty-three NASCAR teams chased the cup around a stadium filled with luxury skyboxes and the familiar Art Deco architecture. What made this race special for the Coast Guard was two cars sporting Coast Guard logos were entered in the historic race.

Roughly 75,000 fans packed the stadium in a riot of colored t-shirts as warm tropical air heralded the end to an exciting season of cars whizzing by in a blur of white-knuckle speed. One unexpected event was a rare race — an active duty Coast Guard car trailed the Employer Supported Reserve and Guard (ESGR) car sporting a Coast Guard Reserve logo sticker under clear blue skies.

NASCAR, known as America’s most popular motor sport, has drivers and cars reaching

dizzying speeds of 180-mph, with wall-banging moves. The sport now commands an unprecedented television audience, claiming 42 percent of its fans are female. In 2003, sales of merchandise licensed by NASCAR totaled \$2.1 billion, making its appeal even stronger.

That hasn’t escaped the notice of the Coast Guard. Since many fantasize about driving like professional racers with hardly a care about speedometers, it’s easy to understand the appeal of gears shifting, engines roaring and the whiff of leaded gasoline — that is, until the sheriff’s car idles alongside. Still, racing has universal appeal with recruiting and exposure potential worth its weight in black gold.

ESGR CGR and Team Coast Guard Cars

This year, the Coast Guard sponsored one car, while the ESGR car was plastered with the Coast Guard Reserve logo while at the Homestead Raceway — both with the familiar orange racing stripe for this race only.



At the race, left to right: MGen Bob Hollingsworth, USMCR(Ret.), Executive Director of ESGR; Mr. Gary Cyr, ESGR; Mrs. Sue Hollingsworth, MCPO Jeff Smith, RADM Duncan Smith, LTJG Greg Peck, Mr. Ronald Peck, Maj. Maribel Ortiz, ESGR; Mr. Tom Bullock, ESGR.

Photo courtesy ESGR



Photo courtesy Janna Bryan, Richard Childress Racing/Harold Hinson - Photographer.

For LTJG Greg Peck, ESRG/NASCAR Project Officer at Headquarters, the Homestead race featuring both cars provided unlimited and positive exposure. Journalists photographically panned the two white cars with the Coast Guard racing stripe as they charged through several laps, the active duty car initially in the lead, as the ESRG car inched its way up, finally overtaking it for a win. The payoff was obvious, said Peck.

“For entire laps of the race, the screen was filled with Coast Guard orange and white,” he said, making it a recruiter’s dream. “That’s exactly the kind of exposure we’re looking for.”

Kevin Harvick, driving the No. 29 ESRG car, led the way with Team Coast Guard car No.44, a Chevrolet driven by Justin Labonte, who spun out, eventually finishing in 17th place. The result was a win by Harvick, sporting a white Nomex suit with a racing stripe that matched his car. The win garnered a bunch of interviews while cameras lingered on the Coast Guard logos, thereby increasing recognition of our service for thousands of NASCAR fans. Demographics show NASCAR fans are overwhelmingly boaters, too. That translates into a win in the recruitment category for all sides of the house be they auxiliaries, active duty or reservists, said Peck.

“In replay value alone, the exposure can only be guesstimated,” he said.

Having a Reserve car started when Richard Childress (famed Richard Childress Racing magnate) was inspired by the thousands of reservists he saw on active duty while on a trip to the Mideast, said Peck.

“Childress felt inspired to contribute, and in a joint effort with the National Executive Director of Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), Maj. Gen. Bob Hollingsworth, USMC (Ret.), the ESRG-NASCAR program was born.”

The No. 29 Busch car was seen at five races during the season, said Peck. At each race, the car bore a Reserve logo from a different U.S. military service, with a different driver at the helm. On April 3, Bobby Labonte kicked off the 2004 season while driving the Army Reserve/Army National Guard car at Texas Motor Speedway in Dallas. The season ended when Harvick drove the USCG Reserve ESRG No. 29 to victory at Miami-Homestead Motor Speedway, Nov. 20.

Traveling across the country, a certain red, white, and blue racing car displayed the Department of Defense (DOD) logo on the hood with each Reserve component logo atop the doors. Making a 100-city tour this past year, the exposure for the military Guard and Reserve has been worthwhile, said Peck. Such repeated imagery makes joining the military a more attractive and viable option, he said.

Celebratory Moment

The Nov. 20 ESRG car win was a celebratory moment garnering unprecedented coverage of the Team Coast Guard and Reserve Coast Guard logos. It was preceded by an employer appreciation luncheon Nov. 19 hosted by ESRG at Coast Guard Air Station Miami. The luncheon was held to honor employers with staff who serve as reservists throughout the Miami-Dade County area.

The event drew ESGR officials, officers from Coast Guard Headquarters, the Seventh District's RADM Brian J. Peterman and CAPT James Maes of Sector Miami. Also in attendance was RADM Duncan Smith, senior reserve officer of PAC Area, Brig. Gen. Michael Lenhart from U.S. Southern Command, and representatives from other services along with Justin Labonte and his mother, Kim.

More than 250 employers watched several Patriot Awards given in recognition of outstanding support of the Guard and Reserve. Amongst the recipients was CAPT Keith Taylor, Commanding Officer of Air Station Miami. Displays at the luncheon included aircraft from Air Station Miami, Air Station Clearwater, an F-16 from the U.S. AFR 482nd Fighter Wing at Homestead Air Reserve Base, a twin-engine propeller aircraft from the USCG Auxiliary, and aircraft from U.S. Customs and Border Patrol.

Setting up the event included a lot of behind the scenes racing around to coordinate so many events in one weekend, said Peck. It was great producing races that rated a stint in the winner's circle, he said.

Ed's Note: For more information on the ESGR, log on to: <http://www.esgr.org/americascar>





Photo courtesy Janna Bryan, Richard Childress Racing/Harold Hinson - Photographer.

THE SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE *U.S.S. SERPENS* 1945 - 2005



Story By
CWO Edward J. Kruska, USCGR

Reprinted From Reservist Magazine, January 1995

Jan. 29, 2005 will mark 60 years since the explosion and destruction of the USS *Serpens* (AK-97) which subsequently claimed the lives of 250 American servicemen — the majority who were Coast Guardsmen. It was the largest single disaster suffered by the Coast Guard in World War II.

The *Serpens*, a Coast Guard-manned ammunition ship, had supplied American forces in the New Zealand, New Caledonia and Guadalcanal areas between August 1943 and December 1944. During the night of Jan. 29, 1945, *Serpens* was loading depth charges as it lay anchored approximately a mile off the coast of Lunga Beach, Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands. Suddenly, and without warning, the 14,250-ton *Serpens* exploded, causing complete destruction of itself and damaging several nearby vessels.

The Coast Guard at War, *Lost Cutters* documents an eyewitness account of the tragic scene: “As we headed our personnel boat shoreward, the sound and concussion of the explosion suddenly reached us, and as we turned, we witnessed the awe-inspiring death drama unfold before us. As the report of screeching shells filled the air and the flash of tracers

continued, the water throughout the harbor splashed as the shells hit. We headed our boat in the direction of the smoke and as we came into closer view of what had once been a ship, the water was filled only with floating debris, dead fish, torn life jackets, lumber and other unidentifiable objects. The smell of death, fire, gasoline, and oil was evident and nauseating. This was sudden death, and horror, unwanted and unasked for, but complete.”

LCDR Perry L. Stinson, *Serpens* commanding officer at the time, one other officer, and six crewmembers were ashore on administrative business when the explosion occurred, and thus, survived. Onboard, only two Coast Guardsmen survived: SN 1st Class Kelsie K. Kemp of Barron Springs, Va. and SN 1st Class George S. Kennedy of San Marcos, Texas. Both were awarded the Purple Heart by then Assistant Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard, RADM L.T. Chalker.

Aside from those 10 survivors, the devastation to the *Serpens* was so great, and the destruction so immediate, that nothing could be done to save the remaining 250 American servicemen on board. Of the 250, 193 were Coast Guardsmen (176 were Coast Guard Reservists while 17 were members of the regular Coast Guard), 56 were Army personnel while Dr. Harry M. Levin of the United States Public Health Service also lost his life.

At first report, the incident was attributed to enemy action. But according to a news release dated May 29, 1946 and published by the Navy’s Office of Public Information, the

court of inquiry investigating the sinking of the *Serpens* held that the cause of the explosion could not be established from present evidence. The release said that the more probable causes appeared to be accidents intrinsic to the loading process or enemy action. By June 10, 1949, it was determined not to have been the result of the enemy.

The remains of the deceased servicemen were buried at the Army, Navy and Marine Cemetery at Guadalcanal with full military honors and religious services. The remains were later repatriated under the program for the return of World War II deceased, and four and one-half years later, on June 15, 1949, an elaborate reinterment service was held to give these valiant men their final resting place in Arlington National Cemetery.

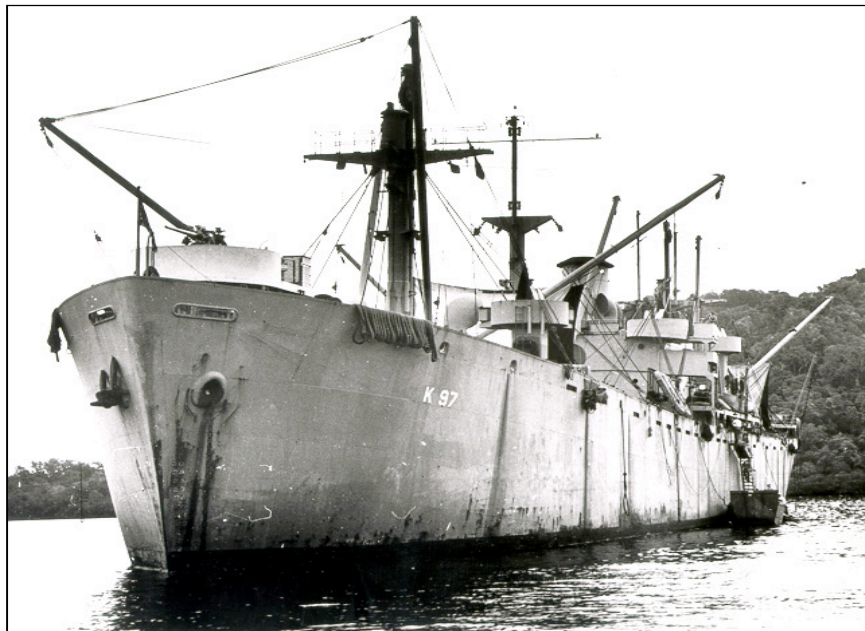
Approximately 1,500 people attended this reinterment ceremony, but there were no speeches made. The ceremony was described as “one of the most elaborate military services accorded our fallen heroes in appreciation of a grateful nation. Words would have been inadequate to express the deep gratitude and admiration for the men that welled up in

the hearts of everyone who witnessed the service.” The extraordinary nature of the catastrophe that claimed their lives made identification of the individuals aboard the *Serpens* impossible. Therefore, their remains were placed in 52 caskets and buried in 28 gravesites. Two other gravesites in the middle of the group were set aside for an octagon-shaped monument. This monument, constructed of Georgia granite, has inscribed upon it an alphabetical listing of the deceased servicemen’s names,

their rank and branch of the service. It marks the collective grave near the intersection of Jesup and Grant Drives, Section 34, in Arlington National Cemetery. The epitaph above the names reads: Herein Rest Those Who Lost Their Lives In The Sinking of USS *Serpens*, World War II, Jan. 29, 1945.

The monument was dedicated Nov. 16, 1950, with 300 people attending. VADM Merlin O’Neill, Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard at that time, remarked in the dedication address that “we cannot undo the past...but we can ensure...that these men shall be respected and honored forever.”

To ensure the memory of those aboard *Serpens* is preserved, the Washington, D.C. Chapter of the Chief Petty Officers Association holds a wreathlaying each year on Jan. 29. This year’s event, the fourth annual wreathlaying and the 60th commemoration since the *Serpens* went down, is set Saturday, Jan. 29, 2005, 12 noon, Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Va.. For info, contact MCPO Mark Allen, mallen@sgt-inc.com or 202-267-6235.



The U.S.S. Serpens before that tragic day, January 29, 1945.

In Brief

• ACTIVE TO RESERVE TRANSITION TEAM (RELAD TEAM) —

If you know of an active duty member who is considering getting out of the Coast Guard or has just recently separated from active duty, consider suggesting that he or she call the RELAD Team.

Team members answer questions about Reserve Program benefits and entitlements, describe Reserve obligations and responsibilities, and assist with the SELRES assignment process. Contacts are: YNCS Jan Crenshaw (center in photo), 202-267-6811, jcrenshaw@comdt.uscg.mil; YN1 Bobby Hansen (right), 202-267-1015, bhansen@comdt.uscg.mil or BM2 Paul Simpson (left), 202-267-0569, psimpson@comdt.uscg.mil



• WEEKEND ASSISTANCE FOR RESERVISTS AT PSC —

Reservists at PSC are now “answering the call” one weekend a month to assist and answer questions from reservists nationwide! The weekend schedule for FY 2005 is as follows: Jan. 22-23, Feb. 26-27, March 19-20, April 16-17, May 21-22, June 11-12, July 16-17, Aug. 20-21, Sept. 17-18. Contact PSC at 1-866-772-8724 or 785-339-2200; E-mail: psccustomer@hrsic.uscg.mil; Web: www.uscg.mil/hq/psc/

• SUMMERSTOCK 2005 —

It's time to plan ahead for 2005! Summerstock is an excellent opportunity for fully qualified boat crew members to work at Coast Guard stations on the Great Lakes. It's also ideal for students and teachers seeking full-time summer employment.

Summerstock point of contact is YN1 Patricia Feeney, D9(osr) at 216-902-6116; Fax: 216-902-6121; E-mail: pfeeney@d9.uscg.mil

Also check the Summerstock intranet site (accessible from CG SWS only): <http://cgweb.lant.uscg.mil/d9/o/osr/summerstock.htm>



• TAX SEASON W-2 ADDRESS CHANGES —

Tax season is almost upon us, so here's a quick reminder from the Personnel Service Center (PSC). The address (Block 22) on your Leave and Earnings Statement is where your W-2 will be mailed. If incorrect, you have missed the deadline (Nov. 30, 2004), and have to wait until after Feb. 15, 2005 to request a duplicate 2004 W-2. Questions can be directed to PSC's help line at 1-866-PSC-USCG (772-8724).

• COAST GUARD IN ACTION CALENDAR 2005 —

Coast Guard calendars for 2005 are now available. This is the 10th consecutive year that retired reservist CWO4 Tom Fletcher is offering these. They can be ordered by mail for \$12.95 plus \$4.50 shipping and handling (for more than one calendar, check the S&H on the Web

site: www.coastiecalendar.com). Discounts are given for large orders. Make checks payable to Lighthouse Enterprises, P.O. Box 1126, Arvada, CO 80001-1126; E-mail: info@coastiecalendar.com. The U.S. Coast Guard does not endorse this product; this is published as a service to our readers.



• SELECTED RESERVE DIRECT COMMISSION (SRDC) —

Applications due at Coast Guard Recruiting Command, April 1, 2005 (selection board convenes May 2, 2005), see ALCGRECRUITING 010/04 for more info. Reserve Officer Candidate Indoctrination (ROCI) courses convene May 7, 2005, and Aug. 13, 2005. For more info, see ALCGRECRUITING 010/04 (R 201424Z AUG 04).

• CGES SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM — The Coast Guard Exchange System (CGES) has established a program to provide scholarships to students who are dependents of active duty and reserve Coast Guard members, civilian NAF and ADP employees and CG Auxiliaries that are embarking on undergraduate college/university studies. A \$1,500 and two \$500 scholarships will be awarded. Deadline is Feb. 28, 2005. Please see ALCOAST 506/04 for more details or contact Mark E. Carscallen at 757-420-2480, ext. 3010 or mcarscallen@cg-exchange.com

• CGC TANNEY DECK RESTORATION —

CGC Taney is the last surviving warship from the attack on Pearl Harbor. Located in Baltimore's Inner Harbor as part of the Baltimore Maritime Museum, the old decking has deteriorated beyond repair and must be replaced. The museum, a non-profit organization, is offering shipmates a piece of this historic decking via a mounted, individually numbered, engraved brass plaque and certificate of authenticity.

Proceeds will help pay for this vital but costly restoration. For info, contact Connie Anderton, Baltimore Maritime Museum, 802 S. Caroline St., Baltimore, MD 21231; Phone: 410-396-3453; Fax: 410-396-3393; E-mail: connie@baltomaritimemuseum.org; Web: www.baltomaritimemuseum.org The U.S. Coast Guard does not endorse this product; this is published as a service to our readers.



- **USCG CYCLING GEAR** — Jerseys, vests, jackets, shorts, and hats! For details and info on how to order, see <http://uscgcyclinggear.com> or email LT Robert Gardali at: uscg@goride.com.

Riding Hat



Winter Hat



Winter Jersey



Cycling Shorts



Socks



The U.S. Coast Guard does not endorse these products; this is published as a service to our readers.

Upcoming Events

JANUARY 2005

- **WORLD WAR II 60TH ANNIVERSARY** — Throughout 2005, the World War II Commemorative Committee will be running events nationwide to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the final year of the war (1945). To view events, check the Web site: www.60wwii.mil and/or contact LCDR Jack Dunphy, DoD WWII Commemoration Committee, RPN, Suite 5413, 1777 N. Kent St., Arlington, VA 22209, 703-588-8598; e-mail: jack.dunphy@qda.army.mil
- **55th PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION** — Thursday, Jan. 20, 2005! As always, the USCG will be participating in this event in Washington, D.C. www.afic.army.mil/

- **USS SERPENS 60TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION** — The DC Chapter of the Chief Petty Officers Association is sponsoring the 4th annual wreathlaying at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Va. Saturday, Jan. 29, 2005, noon, to honor the Coast Guard's worst single disaster during World War II. For info on USS Serpens (AK-97), go to: www.arlingtoncemetery.org/ (under "Historical Information"). Contact MCPO Mark Allen, mallen@sgt-inc.com or 202-267-6235.

FEBRUARY 2005

- **ROA MID-WINTER CONFERENCE** — Feb. 13-16, Hilton Hotel and Towers, Washington, D.C. For info, contact ROA, One Constitution Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002; Phone: 202-479-2200; Web: www.roa.org
- **ROA COAST GUARD RECEPTION** — The ROA Department of D.C. CG Chapter 4 invites all USCG officers (ROA members) to this annual event, Monday, Feb. 14, 2005, 5 p.m. at ROA Headquarters, One Constitution Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. Attire is CG Service Dress Blue (Bravo) or business suit (coat & tie). Cost: O1-O3, \$20; O4 and above, \$30; O1-O3 couples, \$35; O4 and above couples, \$45. For more information, contact CDR Robert Carmack, USCGR, 502 Leaning Oak Street, Gaithersburg, MD 20878; Phones: 240-505-4600; 301-926-9687; E-mail: rcarmack@ventera.com Checks should be made payable to: ROA DC Chapter 4.
- **COAST GUARD RESERVE BIRTHDAY** — Saturday, Feb. 19 is the Coast Guard Reserve's 64th birthday. What is your unit planning to commemorate this special event? Read a decade-by-decade history of our Reserve in the 60th anniversary issue of The Reservist (February 2001) at: www.uscg.mil/reservist

APRIL 2005

- **COAST GUARD MUTUAL ASSISTANCE** — The 2005 campaign kicks off April 1 and runs through April 30. Reservists will be contacted during the campaign, however, contributions can be made at any time. For info, call 1-800-881-2462; Web: www.cgmahq.org

JULY 2005

- **COAST GUARD FESTIVAL** — July 29-Aug. 7, Grand Haven, Mich. For info, contact: U.S. Coast Guard Festival, 113 N. Second St., Grand Haven, MI 49417; Phone: 1-888-207-2434; Web: www.ghcgfest.org

ROCI Class 01-04

Congratulations to Reserve Officer Candidate Indoctrination (ROCI) Class 01-04 who graduated Aug. 6, 2004 after three weeks training at the Coast Guard Academy in New London, Conn. Front row, l to r: ENS Brian Dudley, ENS Daniel Donovan, CWO4 Thomas Bussiere (staff), LTJG Paul Sanger (staff), LT Sam Jackson (staff), CDR Bill Kelly (OCS School Chief), LCDR Patti Seeman (staff), LT Amy Florentino (staff) LTJG Tammy Michelli (staff), LT Steven Kee (staff), ENS John Massingill, ENS Michael Doupe, LT Eric Wescott (staff). Second row, l to r: ENS Brett Merrill, ENS Benito Gonzalez, Jr., ENS Kristi Nadler, ENS Adriane Pinto, ENS Kathleen Peyerl, LTJG Thomas Hughes, ENS Tara Hunter, ENS Genie Mefford, LT Isabel Papp, ENS Mark Brown, USCGR. Third row, l to r: ENS Brandi Rose, ENS Anne Paskavitch, ENS Arthur Hudman, ENS James Morgan, ENS Kristofer Goland, LT Ronald E. Lewis, ENS John Vonk, ENS Jesse



Photo courtesy LT Eric Wescott, OCS

Rangle, ENS Kelley Tiffany, ENS Richard Faro, USCGR; Fourth row, l to r: ENS Robert Wyman, ENS Graham Lanz, ENS Jesse Barker, ENS Ethan Creps, ENS Kelley Turner; ENS Ryan Dilkey, ENS Edwin Miranda, ENS Craig McDonald. Fifth row, l to r: ENS Matthew McGee, ENS Matthew Mills, ENS Brian Webster; ENS Justin

Lemanski, ENS Brian Tiley, ENS Robert Conlin, ENS Scott Lilley, LT Kirk Jorgensen. Back row, l to r: LTJG Dominik Schmidt, ENS Thomas Dewhirst, ENS Daniel Courson, ENS Steven Rodrigue, ENS Mark Rasmussen, ENS Michael Palumbo, ENS Jeffrey Brodeur, ENS Nicholas Osborne.

ROCI Class 02-04

Congratulations to Reserve Officer Candidate Indoctrination (ROCI) Class 02-04 who graduated Aug. 20, 2004 after three weeks training at the Coast Guard Academy in New London, Conn. Front row, l to r (staff): LT Rob McCaskey, LTJG Rachel Lewis, LT Jill Teixeira, LT Brent Yezefski, LCDR Patti Seeman, LT Amy Florentino, LTJG Tammy Michelli, LTJG Meghan Steinhau, LT Clayton Beal, LT Sam Jackson, LT Eric Wescott. Second row, l to r: CWO4 Thomas Bussiere (staff), ENS Jocelyn Soriano, ENS Khoa-Man Nguyen, ENS Jill Houser, ENS Hannah Bealon, ENS Monica Villegas, ENS Alison Zanardi, ENS Brandi Thomason, ENS Ellinor Coder, CWO2 John O'Hara (staff). Third row, l to r: ENS Tomas Ortiz, ENS Peter Sambor, ENS Maxine Inman, ENS Peter Weber, ENS Ruben Orosco, ENS Katherine McLean, ENS Lorelee Scipione. Fourth row, l to r: LTJG Peter Reeves, ENS David



Photo courtesy LT Eric Wescott, OCS

Fernandez, ENS Marlon Heron, ENS Joseph Waligun, ENS Danny Welch, ENS Joan Cook, ENS Daniel Orchard, ENS Patrick Hanley, ENS Joseph McDowell. Fifth row, l to r: ENS Jonathan Smith, ENS Derek Beck, ENS John Ott, ENS Casey Johnson, ENS John Savarese, ENS

Edgar Green, ENS Marcos Espinosa, ENS Mark Gray, ENS John Parsons. Back row: ENS Steven Neal, ENS Michael DiMaggio, ENS Robert Vespi, ENS Nicholas Lisle, ENS Mark Briggs, ENS Andrew Campbell, ENS Steven Mannion, ENS Brian Holloway.

REBI Class 01/05



Photo by Mr. Scott Prince

Reserve Enlisted Basic Indoctrination Class Romeo 01/05 graduated Oct. 15, 2004 at TRACEN Cape May, N.J. Company commanders in front, l to r: MKCS Wayne Self, OS1 Thomas Carella, OSC Matthew Starace. Second row, l to r: OS3 Webb Moore, SK3 Paul Beggs, PS2 Thomas Spears, MK3 Kenneth Stefandel, BM3 Eric Rieser, SN

Jeremiah Jones, PS3 Rodney Phillips, YN3 Dionne Delsignore. Back row, l to r: MK2 Ryan Hooper, PS3 Christopher Mitchell, YN3 Jimmy Eastman, GM3 Cem Esteban, SN Christopher Thomson, PS3 Derek Zook, BM3 Adam Pierce, PS3 Brent Hooper, PS2 David Heaphy, SN Daniel Desai.

PS "A" Class 07/04

Port Security Specialist Class 07/04 graduated recently at TRACEN Yorktown. Front row, l to r: SNPS Riley Houghton, SNPS Jade Osorio, SNPS Concepcion Arteaga, SNPS Zachary Adams, SNPS Jermaine Connor, PS3 Seth Elliott. Middle row, l to r: PS3 Eric Watson (Class Leader), SNPS David Jennings, PS3 Adam Krein, SNPS Michael Collins, SNPS Daniel Grissom, PS3 Benjamin Hearnberger (Class Yeoman), SNPS Ryan Brennan. Back row, l to r: SNPS Christopher Minihan, PS3 Donald Knight (Honor Graduate), SNPS Brandon Robinett, SNPS Jonathan Molzen, SNPS Ryan Francis, SNPS Justin Talley, SNPS Todd Robinson, SNPS Ryan Gregory, PS3 Edward Zajac (Class MAA), SNPS Phillip A. Garcia, PS3 John R. Doucette.



Photo courtesy CWO4 Don Allen, PS "A" School Chief

Promotions

**Reserve Officers Promoted
From OPAL No. 11-04,
ALCGPERSCOM 098/04 (R
261735Z OCT)**

**TO LIEUTENANT
COMMANDER:**

BURKE, ROBERT R. RES.
01NOV2004 COMMANDANT
ABDRABBO, SHARIF A.
RESERVE 01NOV2004 CGD
NINE
FRENDER, MICHAEL J. RES.
01NOV2004 CG GP SAN
FRANCISCO

**Res. Officers Promoted
From OPAL No. 10-04,
ALCGPERSCOM 082/04 (R
241740Z SEP 04)**

TO CAPTAIN:

LEE, LURILLA J. RES.
01OCT2004 CGD THIRTEEN
POTTER, JOHN D. RES.
01OCT2004 MSO PROVIDENCE
SELLA, DAVID G. RES. 01OCT2004 LANTAREA

TO COMMANDER:

WILSON, MICHAEL F. RES. 01OCT2004 SECT. NEW YORK
HEIN, JULIA A. RES. 01OCT2004 GP MILWAUKEE

TO LIEUTENANT COMMANDER:

DASH, DANIELLE L. RES. 01OCT2004 CGD FOURTEEN



Photo by YNC Cynthia Moneda, PACAREA (P) Staff

RADM Kevin Eldridge, D11 Commander, left, and RADM Duncan Smith, PACAREA Senior Reserve Officer, right, pin new O-6 shoulder boards on Carl Nagata at Coast Guard Pacific Area Headquarters. CDR Nagata was frocked for his new assignment as deputy commander of Naval Coastal Warfare Squadron 33 in Seattle.

OSTERGAARD, DANIEL
J. RES. 01OCT2004
COMMANDANT

TO CWO4:

GUEST, RODGER L.
RES. 01OCT2004
SECTOR LONG ISLAND
LACAVA, DIANNE S.
RES. 02OCT2004 ISC
MIAMI BEACH
YOUNG, GEORGE W.
RES. 02OCT2004 ICC

**Res. Officers
Promoted From OPAL
No. 09-04,
ALCGPERSCOM
073/04 (R 261429Z
AUG 04)**

TO COMMANDER:

SCHNEIDER, MICHAEL
P. RES. 01SEP2004 MSO
PITTSBURGH

TO LIEUTENANT COMMANDER:

ZYGMUNT, KATHLEEN A. RES. 01SEP2004 MSO
CHARLESTON
CAMPBELL, ELIZABETH A. RES. 01SEP2004 CG GP
MAYPORT
CONLEY, ANNA E. RES. 01SEP2004 CG BASE DETROIT

TO LIEUTENANT:

FISHER, MARK RPA 29SEP2004 COMMANDANT

Medals

**Joint Service
Commendation Medal**

CDR Joe Dumas, Joint Services Command

**Coast Guard
Commendation Medal**

CWO George Paidousis, CGPC(rpm)
GMCM Bruce A. Klausing, TRACEN Cape May

Army Achievement Medal

MSTCM Kenneth W. Hollowell, CITA Team
PS2 Dale R. Hornberger, CITA Team

**Coast Guard
Achievement Medal**

LCDR Rand H. Wintermute, D8(m)

**Coast Guard Meritorious
Team Commendation**

El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC) Maritime Watch
MSO Portland MTSA Implementation Team
PSU 307, St. Petersburg, Fla.



Photo by LT Dan Gray, CGHQ FSU Program Manager

CDR Joe Dumas, left, is awarded a Joint Service Commendation Medal by CAPT Kevin Quigley at Commandant (G-OPD) in October for his work with Joint Forces Command in Norfolk, Va.

Advancements

**Effective Nov. 1, 2004
From Enlisted Reserve
Advancement Announcement
(ERAA) No. 11/04**

BOATSWAIN'S MATE (BM)

BM1 D LOCKWOOD
BM1 L MCMILLAN
BM1 N LONG
BM1 J COPLEY
BM1 E ALMSKOG
BM1 S CHANEY
BM1 M COBB
BM1 B BIRD
BM2 C BARRETT
BM2 B KITTRELL
BM2 R DONDANVI
BM2 J FLETCHER
BM2 R LEVEILLE
BM3 M MCGETTTRI
BM3 J CARPER

DAMAGE CONTROLMAN (DC)

DCC M WEBB

FOOD SERVICE SPECIALIST (FS)

FSCS W HIRSCH
FSC R MONTANO
FS1 J KIRBY
FS1 R JASKOLSK
FS1 D DAMRELL

GUNNERS MATE (GM)

GM1 F FRANKLIN

MACHINERY TECHNICIAN (MK)

MKC S MEEKS
MKC R TAYLOR
MKC W WRIGHT
MK1 J PICKETT
MK1 M MARSHALL

Photo courtesy YN1 Richard Clark, USCG



YN2 Jill Clark, USCGR, had Second Class "crows" pinned on by YNC Scott Ayriess, left, and her husband, YN1 Richard Clark, of PSU 309, right. The ceremony was held at ISC Cleveland Oct. 21.

Boatswain's Mate Rodney Wurgler, center, was promoted to E-7 in St. Louis Oct. 15. Pinning the new Chief are BM2 Rich Wooderson, USCGR, left, and CWO4 Bill Perkins, right.

Photo courtesy LTJG Shawn Nesser, USCGR



MK1 E DINNING
MK2 J SPEARS
MK2 R DAHL
MK2 E GERNAAT
MK2 A RAMOS
MK2 R STANFORD
MK2 A STEELE
MK2 K CONLEY
MK2 P STITZING
MK2 W ZINCHUCK
MK2 E HOFFMAN

MARINE SCIENCE TECHNICIAN (MST)

MST1 J BENTON
MST1 J GROVER
MST1 C DALTON
MST1 J PLASENCI
MST2 M SHUSTER
MST2 K HEWES

PORT SECURITY SPECIALIST (PS)

PS3 R SCHORAH
PS3 T DANGELO
PS3 J GONZALEZ
PS3 D HELLE

STOREKEEPER (SK)

SK3 J JASPER
SK3 G CARICH

YEOMAN (YN)

YN2 C HOFFMAN
YN2 D DYSON
YN2 J DYER
YN2 M CRUZ

This list is taken directly from ERAA No. 11/04, ALCGPERSCOM 099/04 (R 271252Z OCT 04). Questions should be directed to YNC Jeff Pilkington, jpilkington@hrsic.uscg.mil or 785-339-3410.

Retirements

RET-1 (Retired With Pay)

NOVEMBER 2004

CDR Michael A. Leeson, D7
CDR Gary W. Nystul, D13
LCDR James J. Dalessandro, D5
LCDR Turner P. Jenkins, D5
LCDR Phillip R. Johnson, D13
CWO3 Richard A. Bonney, D13
BMCM Dennis J. Beitey, D13
BMCM James E. Noga, MLCLANT
FSCM Dennis E. Hanson, MLCAPAC
FSCS Jon C. Suttich, PACAREA
PSCS William O. Jones, D5
SKCS Donald R. Vinyard, D8
YNCS Herbert W. Buckley, D1
BMC John F. Jillett, D1
MSTC Jessica J. Brooks, D11

BM1 James E. Hoskins, D1
DC1 Howard Serebrenik, D1
EM1 Curtis E. James, D8
FS1 Jackie R. Fowler, MLCAPAC
GM1 Robert E. Tidwell, D13
IV1 Robert B. Patrick, D5
MK1 George T. Benson, USCG Academy
MK1 William A. Jean, D11
PS1 Robert B. Wright, D5
PS2 Philip C. Baehrle, D1
PS2 Arthur R. Johnson, D1
YN2 Kenneth H. Bass, D5

RET-2 (Retired Awaiting Pay)

AUGUST 2004

LCDR Scott A. Poyer, CGHQ

OCTOBER 2004

CWO2 Frank D. Verheul, D5

NOVEMBER 2004

MKCS Charles G. Barclay, D9
PSCS Ciro F. Sinagra, LANTAREA
OSC Dayne M. Ventura, D8
YNC Paul N. Knight, D8
EM1 Jeffrey A. DeCastillia, MLCLANT
EM1 Mitchell Frid
PS1 Alan W. Mollett, MLCLANT
YN1 Cynthia D. Brewer, TC Yorktown
YN1 Joseph S. Shocket, TC Yorktown
BM2 Frank H. Mason, D7

Source: Lynn Couch, Personnel Service Center (ras)

• **CAPT Justin M. McCarthy, USCGR(Ref.)**, Oct. 23, 2004, in Riverside, Calif. Survived by his wife, Jane McCarthy. Interment Riverside, Calif.

• **CAPT Robert K. Mills, USCGR(Ref.)**, Oct. 31, 2004, in Savannah, Ga. The Fort Valley, Ga. native was a 1959 graduate of the University of Georgia where he was a member of the Kappa Alpha Fraternity. He retired after 28 years from the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve and served as the Commander, Coast Guard Reserve Group in Charleston, S.C. He also retired after 38 years from Savannah Foods and Industries where he was a vice president. He was a 50-year member of the First Baptist Church of Savannah where he served as a deacon and was a member of the Open Door Sunday School Class. He served as President of The Royce Learning Center Board and as a director of the Georgia Food Industry Association. Mr. Mills was an avid football fan and served as president of the Calvary Booster Club, was a member of the University of Georgia Booster Club and the Georgia Southern Booster Club. He is survived by his wife, Frances D. Mills; sons, Robert Jr., M. Leighton, Jonathan, Athens and Andrew; mother, Helen H. Waters; brother, Dr. Rudolph W. Mills; eight granddaughters; cousins, several nieces and nephews. A funeral service was held Nov. 3, 2004 at First Baptist Church of Savannah with interment in the Greenwich Section of Bonaventure Cemetery, Savannah. Remembrances: First Baptist Church of Savannah, Endowment Fund, P.O. Box 9551, Savannah, GA 31401.

• **CAPT Walter S. Ryan, USCGR(Ref.)**, Oct. 7, 2004, in Boca Raton, Fla.

• **CDR Robert A. Bisselle, USCGR(Ref.)**, Nov. 1, 2004, in Bethesda, Md. Survived by his wife, Frances B. Bisselle.

• **CDR George A. Newton, USCGR(Ref.)**, Sept. 25, 2004.

• **CDR Robert S. Raymer, USCGR(Ref.)**, 84, Sept. 18, 2004, in Scottsdale, Ariz. CDR Raymer was a graduate of Brookline High School in Massachusetts, attended the University of North Carolina and was an avid and prize-winning sailor. He was a veteran of World War II and retired from the USCGR in 1980. CDR Raymer is survived by his wife, Elinor Raymer, daughters Emily Raymer and Wendy Nelson, grandsons James and

Benjamin Nelson, four nieces, one nephew, and grandnieces and nephews. Interment took place Sept. 23, 2004, at the National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona.

• **CDR Marshall L. Rutherford, USCGR(Ref.)**, Oct. 21, 2004, in San Diego, Calif. Survived by his wife, Mary E. Rutherford.

• **CDR Charles R. Smith, USCGR(Ref.)**, Oct. 23, 2004, in Huntsville, Ala.



• **CWO4 Ernest L. Van Winkle, USCGR(Ref.)**, Oct. 21, 2004, in San Francisco, Calif. Interment San Francisco.

• **FICS Gustave "Gus" Valdovinos, USCGR(Ref.)**, 77, Sept. 25, 2004, in Greenfield, Wis. He was a Milwaukee firefighter for 31 years, Coast Guard Reservist for 26 years and World War II veteran in the U.S. Army Air Corps. He is survived by his wife Bernadine Valdovinos; children Michael, Mark, Lynn, James and Stephen; brother of Salvador, Ramiro, Reynaldo and Raquel; nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Funeral Mass was held Sept. 29, 2004 at St. Florian Catholic Church, West Milwaukee. Entombment Wisconsin Memorial Park Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials preferred. Special thanks to VITAS Hospice Nursing Staff.

• **QM2/c Robert Lewis Resnick**, 82, Nov. 6, 2004, in Boca Raton, Fla. Born in and attended high school in Bronx, N.Y., he served in the United States Coast Guard during World War II. A successful businessman, he claimed his accomplishments were framed by his wartime experiences. Resnick could accurately imitate accents and inflections, reciting Camelot and Shakespearean plays with little prodding, and had vivid recall of every major speech given by Winston Churchill and Franklin Delano Roosevelt. In later years, Resnick spoke of crossing the Pacific Ocean with a U.S. Marine named Ira Hayes. He recounted in vivid detail, Feb. 23, 1945, a day when a young Marine named Renee Gagnon scrambled the American flag, along with Hayes and others to the top of Mt. Surabachi on Iwo Jima. It was Resnick, a quartermaster on an LST, who provided the historic flag and 21-foot pole from LST 758, that created an indelible image of war. Resnick said he wanted the country to realize the significance of the Coast Guard's participation in the battle and victory. He is survived by his children, Laura Resnick-Ostrer, Dana and Bryan Resnick; grandchildren, Evan, Josh, Courtney, and Zach. A memorial service was held Nov. 8, 2004 at Riverside Nassau North Chapels, Great Neck, N.Y.



Ed's note: See Vol. 51, Number 6 published in summer 2004 for Mr. Resnick's story, "Iwo Jima: The Coast Guard Connection." (www.uscg.mil/reservist)

"Taps" Correction

• **OSC Lawrence W. Dill, USCGR**, was mistakenly listed as "Crossed the Bar" on page 30 of Vol. 51, Number 9. Though Chief Dill did suffer a heart attack in September, he reports that a stent was placed in his coronary artery, is working perfectly, and "my continued service is expected to last until the Coast Guard no longer needs me." We regret the error and appreciate the Chief's good humor about this unfortunate mistake. To quote Mark Twain, "Rumors of my death have been greatly exaggerated."

Present + Change = Future

“Every day you may make progress. Every step may be fruitful. Yet there will stretch out before you an ever-lengthening, ever-ascending, ever-improving path. You know you will never get to the end of the journey. But this, so far from discouraging, only adds to the joy and glory of the climb.”

— Sir Winston Churchill, British politician (1874-1965)

While reflecting on my first year as the Master Chief of the Coast Guard Reserve Force and thinking about what message I wished to convey, I was struck by the above quote by one of the Twentieth Century's greatest statesmen, Sir Winston Churchill. My humble and simplistic interpretation of Churchill's words is this: Our daily lives, change, and the future are inextricably linked. It is that linkage and the opportunity to have a positive and lasting impact on those who will follow that makes the effort implicit in Churchill's words so important and rewarding. I would like to offer some perspective on how the changes currently underway and those yet to fully materialize may impact the Coast Guard at the tactical and strategic levels and the potential impact on you now and in the future.

Let me start with a very quick review of where we stand in the wake of Sept. 11, 2001. The Reserve Strategic Assessment (known as RSAT) was undertaken and identified 84 gaps and corrective actions with regards to the management and readiness of the Reserve workforce. To date, 34 of the 84 gaps have been addressed with an additional 10 scheduled for completion by March 31, 2005. (If you have not taken the time to familiarize yourself with RSAT findings including updates on corrective actions, I strongly recommend you do so. It is available on the Coast Guard INTRANET via the Reserve Home Page.)

As an extension to the work of the RSAT, our Commandant ADM Thomas Collins directed that the Reserve Strategic Employment Working Group (RSEWG) be created. This Flag level team is tasked with reviewing and defining the strategic role and placement of the Reserve workforce within the broader Coast Guard construct. Currently, it is anticipated that the RSEWG will report out to the Commandant this month (December 2004). Another effort underway with the potential to impact the Reserve workforce is a study of the existing assignment process to determine if changes are needed to ensure a viable and ready mobilization capability. These are a few of the strategic efforts being worked, but, in my opinion, they reflect the “ever lengthening, ever-ascending, ever-improving path” to which Churchill refers.

So how do these efforts impact you and your fellow

shipmates down at the deck plate level? And, what is your role within the Present + Change = Future equation?

Regardless of what form the strategic vision takes, the need for knowledgeable, engaged and dedicated Coast Guard men and women will remain. Could some of you be asked to drill at a new location? Yes. Could some of you be asked to change your rating? Yes. Could some of you be asked to acquire new qualifications? Yes. Has some of this already happened? Yes. (See ALCOAST 171/04 and ALCOAST 393/04.)

Should we, as reservists, view this potential for change as a threat? No. It is important to understand that change is a natural course of events and should be embraced with an eye toward improving yourself, your shipmates, your unit, your Coast Guard and ultimately those who will follow. Each of you has the potential, regardless of your pay grade or assignment, to have a positive impact on the changes and challenges which face the Coast Guard.

It is up to you as to how you will choose to use that opportunity. My recommendation is to start with the basics: update and validate your Direct Access information; complete your Annual Screening Questionnaire (ASQ) (was due in October); find out which Contingency Personnel Requirement List (CPRL) billet you are assigned to and work toward attaining the qualifications required to fill that billet when mobilized; expand your rating or specialty knowledge; and, take responsibility for your physical, medical and dental readiness. In addition to these individual actions, it is my expectation that the Chief's Corps is looking out for our junior members as well as working with their commands to provide regular feedback and input on how to improve overall readiness and mission effectiveness.

My challenge to each of you is to ensure that in the words of Churchill, “Every day you may make progress.” Because it is your efforts, combined with those of your shipmates, which will ultimately create that “ever-improving path” from which you can rightfully take much joy and glory.



**By MCPO Jeffrey D. Smith, USCGR
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YEAR IN REVIEW



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